

7 December 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Morning Meeting of 7 December 1965

[] of OCI gave a background briefing on []

DD/I noted completion of an interim report by a special State and Defense study group on long-term aspects of U. S. policy toward Communist China. The Agency had provided intelligence support to this group but was not represented on the group itself. DD/I said that the interim report will be studied and comments and suggestions will be sent forward to the DCI.

DD/I noted a request from Administrator Webb of NASA that the Agency provide him with vu-graphs of U. S. versus Soviet space expenditures for his use in budget discussions with BOB and the President.

DD/I referred to the problem of describing Communist logistics capabilities and requirements for the fighting in Vietnam. MACV has come up with a new assessment of these which is out of line with previous CIA and DIA views. DD/I tabled a paper on this subject with DCI. DCI noted that he had made available to various senior U. S. officials the draft SNIE concerning Vietnam which is up for discussion at USIB this morning. DCI urged that the SNIE be revised to focus more on possibilities pertaining to ChiCom intervention in Vietnam and on the importance of Cambodia as a supply base for Communist operations. DCI gave Kent a paper given to him yesterday by Secretary McNamara dealing with Vietnam for study as it relates to the SNIE.

DD/I noted a recent cable from General Westmoreland, who reports that some U. S. units are outgunned by some PAVN units. Westmoreland has recommended emergency re-equipment of U. S. and GVN forces to eliminate equipment which appears inferior.

DD/I initiated a brief discussion of certain problems which appear to exist in connection with certain intelligence support to the White

House from agencies other than CIA, including support to the White House via long-distance xerography. It was noted that Tom Hughes may raise this at USIB this morning.

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DD/I initiated a brief discussion of the current problems with [] the TACKLE program. In answer to a DDCI inquiry, it was agreed that it is not desirable at this time to inform USIB of the current TACKLE problem.

R. J. Smith noted a Soviet announcement of a 5 percent increase in defense expenditures this year. This restores the Soviet defense budget to the approximate level of 1964.

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Houston reported that Blandford and Kelleher, two staff members of the House Armed Services Committee, are in the Agency for briefings today. It was agreed that the DCI would meet with them at some time today.

Bross said he and his staff are ready to brief the DCI on information which has been compiled pertaining to the costs and force levels of various intelligence functions.

DD/S&T reported on further briefing sessions with John Foster, DOD/DDRE, yesterday. DD/S&T noted that it may be desirable to provide special CIA intelligence support to and liaison with Foster particularly on the R&D, reconnaissance, and technical fronts. DCI concurred that such an arrangement should be encouraged and suggested that it might be preferable to designate someone here at Headquarters to build this bridge rather than post a man full-time in Foster's office.

DD/P reported on two recent successes in counter-intelligence efforts in Vietnam which resulted in successful military operations against Viet Cong installations. (See Action 2)

DD/P noted current evidence, as reflected in today's CIB, that the fortunes of Shelepin may be on the wane in the USSR.

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Executive Director asked for and got the DCI's signature on a letter to BOB pertaining to a Presidential request for a cut in personnel strength.

ACTIONS:

1. DD/S is requested to expedite reporting as appropriate on the details and implications of the case of [redacted] who had functioned as a U. S. spy for the Soviets. (DD/S - Status report by 13 December)

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2. A wrap-up on recent counter-intelligence successes and efforts in Vietnam [redacted] (DD/I in consultation with [redacted] In the course of the day)

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3. DCI requests DD/I comments on the advisability of the DCI's sending another letter to the President on the status of Government [redacted] (DD/I - In the course of the day)

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[redacted]
L. K. White